

“Cleaner Watercraft: Get the Facts”

A 6 min. video Script
California Air Resources Board
Produced 1999

HOST ON CAMERA

Hi. I'm David Chokachi. Like you, I love California's great outdoors, fantastic scenery, and recreational fun...like boating. Whether it's cutting S-curves on the water, or trolling for the big lunkers, we are lucky to have so many choices of fun in the California sun!

We also probably share a common interest in the environment. Fresh air and clean water aren't things to take for granted any more - we can all do something to help.

Your local boat dealers are working to do just that.... with cleaner engines that will benefit everyone.

VOICEOVER (VO)

California still has the most polluted air in the country. One growing source of smog comes from small boat engines - there's over one-half million outboards and jet boats out there. On summer weekends, smog-forming emissions from these boats is the equivalent of several million cars!

The California Air Resources Board has been fighting smog for more than 30 years by cleaning up all kinds of air pollution sources. Cars, trucks and buses head the list. The Board pays close attention to the economic impact of every decision it makes. It searches for the most cost-effective ways to clean up our air.

ON CAMERA

Thanks to technology, new cars today run 95 percent cleaner than cars of the 1970's. Now, marine engine manufacturers are working to meet new state air quality standards for outboards and personal watercraft.

VO

These air quality standards will have the added indirect benefit of helping to protect water quality too. Older two-stroke marine engines, using a carburetor, send about 30 percent of the gasoline out the exhaust pipe unburned into the air and water. Engine improvements that reduce air pollution will also reduce discharges of unburned fuel into the water.

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Here are the new rules:

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Beginning with 2001 models, new outboards, personal watercraft, and jet boats must be 75% cleaner running than today's typical watercraft. By 2008, they must be 90% cleaner. That may sound ambitious, but there are engines available today that already meet the 2001 standards.

ON CAMERA

It's important to know that the new rules do not ban the use, sale, or resale, of any existing outboard engines or personal watercraft. The standards apply only to new equipment beginning in 2001. There are no requirements to modify or retrofit existing engines sold prior to 2001.

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The new rules are based solely on exhaust emission levels and do not favor, or ban, any particular engine type or technology. That's important to know, because it says that two-stroke motors are not banned. Engine manufacturers today produce a variety of new engines between 2 and 225 horsepower that already comply with the new regulations. Many of today's 4-stroke engines, and some new direct-injected 2-stroke engines, meet the 2001 pollution standards.

Also, the new rules do not apply to stern drive, inboard, or diesel engines.

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New, cleaner engines may cost a little more, but their owners will save in other ways: Improved engines will use 30 to 40 percent less gas and oil.

VO

A more efficient 90 horsepower 4-stroke outboard will save 2000 dollars in fuel and oil costs over a 16 year life, and a more efficient direct-injection 2-stroke will save about 1300 dollars.

Alt: A more efficient 90 horsepower 4-stroke outboard will save 2000 dollars in fuel and oil costs over a 16 year life, compared with older 2-strokes. And a more efficient 90 horse 2-stroke will save about 1300 dollars, compared with older 2-stroke motors.

Besides better fuel economy and lower oil consumption, the new engines offer improved idle performance, and even run quieter.

ON CAMERA

Beginning in 2001, new marine engines will have manufacturer labels to show that they meet state emission standards. There are three kinds of labels for: low, very low, and ultra low emissions. Labels will help you shop for a new, cleaner engine or watercraft.

VO

In some lakes and reservoirs, water quality is a special concern. The labels give individual water agencies, controlling those areas, new options to allow the use of new

cleaner engines to protect water quality. It only makes sense that cleaner running engines will help us to preserve recreational opportunities in those special areas.

To 'get the facts' about Cleaner Watercraft, you can call or write to get more information. Write to:

California Air Resources Board, P.O. Box 2815, Sacramento, California, 95812. Toll-free call: 1-800-END SMOG.

Check out the Air Resources Board web site. You'll find a Buyers Guide for new marine engines. You can find it on the board's web site: www.arb.ca.gov.

ON CAMERA

These new rules on new engines will reduce air and water pollution. That's something all of us want for California's environment. Thanks for watching.